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QUERY BY PROF. L. G. BARBOUR.—If it be an axiom that the shortest distance between any two given points is measured on the straight line connecting them, do the writers on the Calculus of Variation really *prove* the same truth?

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NOTE BY PROF. CASEY.—In reference to the Note on Todhunter's Trigonometry in ANALYST, No. 3, p. 104, the equation should read  $a \cos 2\varphi + b \cos 2\theta = c$ , and not  $a \cos 2\varphi + b \cos \theta = c$ . Mr. T. has had his Trigonometry freed from both typographical errors long ago.

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PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

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*A Treatise on Trigonometry*, by Profs. OLIVER, WAIT and JONES of Cornell University. 102 p. 8vo. Ithaca: Finch and Apgar. 1881.

The names of the authors are a sufficient guarantee of the value of this work and of its adaptation to the wants of students in trigonometry. We extract the following from the Preface.

"It is designed as a drill-book for class use; its leading features are:

The general definitions of the trigonometric functions in terms applicable to all angles, without regard to sign or magnitude,

The expression of the functions of all angles in terms of the functions of positive angles less than a right angle, by direct reference to the definitions.

The graphical representation of functions.

The general proof of the formulæ for the functions of the sum and difference of two angles, of double angles, half-angles, etc.

The differentiation of trigonometric functions, their development thereby into series, and the computation of the trigonometric canon by means of these series." &c.

*An Analysis of Relationships*. By A. MACFARLANE, M. A., D. SC., F. R. S. E. From the Philosophical Magazine for June, 1881. Pamphlet. 10 p. 8vo.

*The Endowment of Scientific Research*. From the Annual Address of the President of the California Academy of Sciences, Prof. GEORGE DAVIDSON, A. M., D. PH. Pamphlet.

*The Mathematical Visitor*, No. 6. ARTEMAS MARTIN, A. M., Editor, Erie, Pa. This No. completes Vol. I, and contains 48 pages and Index to Vol. I.

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ERRATA.

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On page 103, line 2, for  $y = 4ax$ , read  $y^2 = 4ax$ .

" " 104, " 1, for 353 read 354.

" " 105, " 10, from bottom, insert of, after "conceived".

" " 109, " 11, " " for fallacious read fallacious.

" " 111, " 18, for paralax read parallax.